



SEAFDEC/AQD Institutional Repository (SAIR)

Title	AQD Matters 2009 April
Author(s)	
Citation	
Issue Date	2009
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10862/780

This document is downloaded at: 2013-07-02 04:34:29 CST



SEAFDEC AQD Matters

In-house newsletter of the SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Tigbauan, Iloilo

SEAFDEC holds 41st Council Meeting

By B Acosta



Participants of the 41st Meeting of the SEAFDEC Council

Over 70 participants representing the SEAFDEC Council from 11 member-countries, international organizations (FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific- FAO/RAP and the ASEAN Secretariat), SEAFDEC Departments and Secretariat gathered in Fukuoka, Japan for the 41st SEAFDEC Council Meeting.

The event, held from 7-10 April 2009, was attended by AQD's Dr. Joebert Toledo

(Chief); Dr. Teruo Azuma (Deputy Chief) and Ms. Belen Acosta (Special Departmental Coordinator).

The meeting – hosted by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan – was convened to review the achievements made by SEAFDEC in 2008 and planned activities for 2009; discuss important fisheries related issues and the management of SEAFDEC as a fisheries organization in Asia; and

provide the necessary policy directions.

AQD's Work Presented at the Meeting. As part of the SEAFDEC Secretary General's report to the Council on the achievements and plans of SEAFDEC Departments and the Secretariat, Dr. Toledo presented an overview of AQD's R&D in 2008 and the focus of work in 2009. The Council commended the Department for the >>>page 2

Launching of milkfish project phase 2



And with the snip of the ribbon, the second phase of the milkfish cage culture project in Guimaras was officially launched.

The launching, which happened last April 23 in Brgy San Antonio, Nueva Valencia, Guimaras, was attended by TID head Mr. Renato Agbayani, Training Section head Ms. Kaylin Corre, Devcom Section head Ms. Milagros Castaños, IMS head Mr. Albert Gaitan, Marine Fish program leader Dr. Relicardo Coloso and other AQD staff.

Also gracing the affair were Petron Foundation's Ms. Carmen Pedrosa (Director), Mr. Allan Victorino (Project Officer), and Ms. Racquel Cedeño. The project beneficiaries and Brgy. Chairman Danilo Tagulalap rounded up the participants during the launching.

In his message, Mr. Tagulalap expressed gratitude for the project, and hoped that the skills learned by the trainees during the first phase would be used for the second phase's implementation.

Mr. Victorino challenged the beneficiaries to continue and improve the project, and that Petron Foundation will be the bridge for their progress.

Ms. Pedrosa on her part noted the beneficiaries' ability to turn a crisis into opportunity, and stressed the importance of interconnectivity and education for the success of the project.

The second phase of the project will be implemented in a 10 x 10 x 6 m cage to be situated in the barangay.

The project is a collaboration among AQD, Petron Foundation Inc and Citigroup.



41st Council Meeting

(from page 1)

accomplishments made last year and noted the activities for 2009.

Some Council Members requested AQD to continue extending technical assistance in aquaculture to their countries to address problems in e.g., mass production of seaweeds, management and prevention of diseases and parasite infestation in freshwater fish, and in ensuring safety of freshwater fish and other fishery products for human consumption).

The participants also reviewed the efforts made by SEAFDEC in the following: (a) the implementation of responsible fisheries (promotion and implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries in the region); (b) addressing international fisheries-related issues like the EC regulation, FAO legally-binding instruments for combating Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing, aquaculture certification, small-scale fisheries, mitigating the impacts of climate change to fisheries and aquaculture, and fisheries subsidies.

In addition, SEAFDEC has developed a revised program framework, which aims to help harmonize and streamline the various programs/projects of the Departments and the Secretariat and provide a common focus to achieve the SEAFDEC mandate.

A *Regional Advisory Committee (RAC)* was established to provide technical advice to the SEAFDEC Council for the improvement of fisheries management in Southeast Asia and to assist the Member Countries in achieving the sustainable utilization of fisheries resources.

To ensure that the technologies and research products of SEAFDEC are protected and recognized as useful for the development of the fisheries in the region, the Council approved in principle the proposed Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy of SEAFDEC, which aims to create a Center-wide environment that encourages the generation of new knowledge by the staff and employees and to facilitate the widespread transfer of innovations.

The Council likewise had a discussion on the holding of a SEAFDEC Fisheries Conference in 2011. This is to follow up on the *ASEAN-SEAFDEC Conference on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security in the New Millennium: "Fish for the People"* held in November 2001, which came up with a Resolution and Plan of Action for sustainable fisheries in the ASEAN Region. The conference will be conducted in Thailand in collaboration with the ASEAN Foundation.

As part of this major activity, AQD, in collaboration with partners in the region, will convene a Regional Technical Consultation (RTC) for Sustainable Aquaculture Towards 2020 sometime in June 2010. The RTC aims to follow-up on developments of aquaculture after the 2001 Millennium Conference and provide a forum to discuss strategies for further development of sustainable aquaculture in the ASEAN-SEAFDEC Member Countries for the next decade.



Inset: AQD Chief Dr. JD Toledo gives a presentation on highlights of AQD's work in the region; *below:* The 41st SEAFDEC Council Meeting participants during the round table discussions



Fulbright-related Activities: Washington DC...

...and Rhode Island

Graduate students and faculty are all ears at Dr. CLP's lecture



Having informal discussions with a graduate student

Dr. Celia L. Pitogo attended the 2009 Fulbright Visiting Scholar Conference that was organized by the United States Department of State and the Council for International Exchange of Scholars in Washington D.C. last April 19-21.

The conference was organized to provide the scholars with a valuable opportunity to enhance their understanding of the US and its citizens - including attitudes and experiences of US citizens toward issues of national

and international importance.

The conference opened with a plenary address from Dr. Bruce Johnstone, who talked about the *Implications of worldwide economic turbulence to higher educational access and equity*.

Concurrent sessions occupied much of the participants' time during the three-day activity. The participants discussed higher education in relation to: (1) equity, diversity and affirmative action; (2) the impact of cross borders and distance education; (3) finance

mechanisms and financial aid; (4) the global economic crisis; (5) gender equity; and (6) equity in curriculum and instruction.

Dr. Pitogo is on a five-month study leave as a Fulbright Senior Scholar to conduct research on *Ensuring sustainability of the Philippine shrimp industry through effective health management of native and introduced shrimp*, and is currently based at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Arizona, USA.

After attending the conference in Washington, DC, Dr. Pitogo then proceeded to the University of Rhode Island (URI) from April 21-25. What follows is her account of the trip.

The University of Rhode Island thinks of itself as "Small beautiful place. Really big thinking" and my visit there made me realize how differently things are scaled out here. The URI has four campuses, three of which I visited - the campus at Kingston, at Narragansett Bay and at W. Alton Jones - all beautiful and big to my eyes. With around 14,000 students, that is not a small university by Philippine standard.

Although my lectures were conducted at the Kingston Campus, it was the Narragansett Campus that stirred nostalgia in me. Many required readings in my Master's courses were on studies done in the bay. During a tour of the Narragansett Bay Campus, a lot about the set up reminded me of home - the sea a stone-throw away, tanks of all sizes and make, pumps, nets, a maze of

pipes, posters of fish, manuals, farmer guides, etc. The similarity between SEAFDEC and URI doesn't end there. My hosts and I, for one, share big similarities: Marta Gomez-Chiarri and I work on *Vibrio harveyi*, a luminescent bacterial pathogen of fish; and the Fulbright for Mike Rice and I.

Under the URI's College of the Environment and Life Sciences is the Department of Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science with a graduate fellows program called DIMO that stands for Diseases of Marine Organisms with a mission to train doctoral students in an integrated, collaborative, and multidisciplinary approach to research questions in the area of diseases of marine organisms. Now, that is one big similarity to what I do, except for the degree-granting character of DIMO. At SEAFDEC, I participate in training adult learners to recognize and prevent diseases of aquatic organisms.

Lecture to students. A lecture entitled *Aquaculture of crustaceans in Southeast Asia: issues on health management and implications on food safety and trade* was given to undergraduate students in Aquaculture Health Management under Dr. Gomez-Chiarri. The host species and the diseases that were discussed in the lecture were mostly new to the students having no shrimp or crab aquaculture in Rhode Island.

Seminar to students and faculty. For this seminar, the topic was *The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center: providing aquaculture technologies for Southeast Asia and beyond*, which introduced to the attendees the research programs and technologies that SEAFDEC has developed and how these are disseminated to end users. At the start of the seminar, a few slides to introduce SEAFDEC and its role in the development of aquaculture in Southeast Asia were shown.

Meeting URI Faculty. During my stay in Rhode Island, I stayed in the beautiful home of Dr. Mike Rice and wife Ping. Dr. Rice, a professor at URI and a fellow Fulbrighter, not only excels in the academic field, but has branched out to politics as well having been elected last November 2008 into the State of Rhode Island's Assembly. Mike taught the Filipinos biology and aquaculture, but he managed to imbibe a good sense of politics in the Philippines to get engaged in it in Rhode Island - and quite successfully.

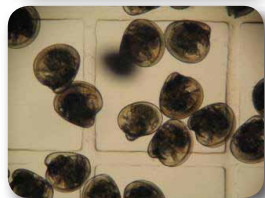
Brian Crawford, the Director of International Programs at URI, mentioned their aquaculture extension program in Africa during my visit. I informed him that the technology to breed some of the fish that they are targeting to develop in Tanzania are available at SEAFDEC. One of the important species they are targeting is milkfish, of >> **page 4**



Dr. Pitogo (center) with Dr. Mike Rice (left) and Brian Crawford

...and Rhode Island

(from page 3)



(From top) Dr. CLP with Dr. Gomez-Chiarri and RWU Shellfish Hatchery staff; hatchery-produced oyster larvae; hatchery-produced clownfish juveniles

which SEAFDEC has mature breeding and culture technologies to offer. Exchange or cooperative programs, as well as provision of training can be forged to fast-track project implementation.

I also met with the Department Chairman, Dr. Dave Bengtson, and Dr. Barry Costa-Pierce, Director of Rhode Island Sea Grant Program, who was instrumental in bringing me to the URI.

Informal discussion with graduate students and research staff. On my first day at URI, Dr. Gomez-Chiarri also arranged informal discussions with graduate students. Some of them are working on research topics that are linked with disease problems in Asia, thus I linked them with experts in the field from my part of the world.

Visit to Roger Williams University. The beautiful campus of the Roger Williams University is located on a stunning 140 acres overlooking Mount Hope Bay. We visited the shellfish and tropical marine fish hatcheries located at the ground floor of the Marine and Natural Sciences Building and the sight of colorful tropical fishes produced in a temperate setting was truly amazing.

SEAFDEC alumni in Rhode Island

I was at the University of Rhode Island last April 22-25 for Fulbright's Occasional Lecturer Program. Dr. Barry Costa-Pierce bridged me over to Dr. Marta Gomez-Chiarri, who arranged my lecture to her students on Aquahealth Management and a seminar for graduate students and faculty members. Marta also brought us to Roger Williams University in Bristol.

Our hosts at Kingston were Dr. Mike Rice and his very gracious wife Ping, an Ilocana. If you remember, Mike gave a seminar on quahog fishery at SEAFDEC sometime in 2006 during his Fulbright stint in Luzon. Long before we arrived, Mike and Ping announced our arrival to Filipino friends in Kingston and that spawned a string of surprise reunions. Only then did I remember that URI, Rhode Island and SEAFDEC had links since a long time ago – Oseni Millamena's training, Pura Requentina's and Cacay Tamse's graduate work, Roland Rudio.

Below are photos that were taken at Roland & Audrey's home last April 25 - this is the most complete photo of the group. It shows Patoy Torres and I, Roland and Audrey, Pura and Edwin Requentina, Mike and Ping Rice, and Brian and Chat Crawford. Both Mike and Brian were in the Philippines as Peace Corps volunteers in the early part of their careers. They not only parted away good experiences after their stints, but Filipina beauties as well. Ping was Mike's Ilocano language teacher who did a really good job since Mike can now blurt out "Ilocano" jokes featuring his favorite characters, Lakay Diego and his wife Emerenciana. Chat finished BS Fisheries in UP and might have been in the class with Lucy, younger sister of Terio Borlongan. A very small world it is.

Edwin and Pura are sending everyone their best regards. Since their home is just across Kingston's rail station, we all gathered there for a hearty breakfast on the morning of our departure for New York. Patoy and I were the only ones who had a huge send off party at the station.

– CL PITOGO



AQD at the 2nd RESCOPAR meeting

AQD scientist Ms. Eleonor Tendencia was one of the participants in the *Second RESCOPAR meeting*.

The event was held last February 25–26 in Samarinda, East Kalimantan, Indonesia.

The workshop gave Ms. Tendencia an opportunity to present progress and plans of

her PhD thesis, which she is taking from the Wageningen University of The Netherlands.

RESCOPAR (Rebuilding resilience of coastal populations and aquatic resources: habitats, biodiversity and sustainable use options) is mainly funded by Wageningen University. Other project

partners include Can Tho University (CTU); Vietnam, Mulawarman University, Indonesia; World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Indonesia; Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC); and the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA).

Two chemistry events in Bohol

by PS Eusebio

AQD scientist Perla Eusebio attended two chemistry-related gatherings in Tagbilaran City, Bohol from April 14 to 16. The following is her account.

My participation in the 1st Asia-Pacific Conference on Chemistry Education (APCCE) and the 24th Philippine Chemistry Congress (24th PCC) was very rewarding and enjoyable. The theme of the conference – *Chemistry education: A way to safeguard man, society and environment* – underscored the critical role of chemistry in the preservation of man, society and the environment.

The conference was a perfect forum for the exchange of ideas between scientists, chemists, teachers and students for the development of chemistry education in the Asia Pacific region and also fostered the collaborative efforts for the promotion of the chemistry profession. The meeting of

minds of chemists from the different sector of society surely brought an atmosphere of optimism in addressing issues and problems relating to chemical science.

Bohol is an island of history and natural beauty. It was an excellent venue. Agriculture, together with tourism, are the two dominating economic sectors of the main island. There were about 500 delegates from all over the Asia-Pacific region who attended the 3-day conference as plenary speakers (6), keynote lecturers (22), moderators of technical sessions, oral and poster paper presenters (200), chemistry and chemistry science related students, exhibitors (17) and guests.

The first day was highlighted by a keynote address of Dr. Ester Ojena, the Director of Science Education Institute, DOST. Oral presentations followed. There were 6-7

simultaneous sessions daily and were on: analytical science, biochemistry, organic chemistry, food chemistry, chemical education, environmental science, natural products and material science.

Poster papers were presented in two sessions, the first and second session on the second and third day, respectively. A fellowship dinner was held where delegates were served with exotic food and entertained by a cultural show, the Diwanag Dance Troupe and Loboc Children's Choir.

My last day was spent visiting the island's top rated attractions, the countryside tour. The Baclayon Church is one of the oldest stone churches in the Philippines, and the nearby museum was built from old stones. The latter has religious relics dating back to the early 16th century. We also viewed the site of the Blood Compact between Filipinos and Spaniards and the tropical man-made forest in Loboc where thousands of mahogany trees were planted by the local people.

The delegates also visited a sanctuary of free flying butterflies of different sizes and attractive colors. We have also seen the smallest monkey in the world (tarsiers) along the Loboc River before our lunch in a floating restaurant. As we cruise the Loboc River, we viewed the majestic panorama of the nipa palm plantation and wild ducks swimming in the river. After that, the delegates proceeded to Carmen where we feasted our eyes on the breathtaking work of nature, the Chocolate Hills consisting of 1,268 hills which turn brown during dry season.

The island of Bohol is really a place to stay longer in.



Plenary speaker Prof. Salvador Alegret talks on nanobioelectroanalytical systems



Ms. Eusebio acts as a moderator in one of the scientific sessions (biochemistry and natural products). She also presented a paper



The delegates from the academe, agriculture, aquaculture and research



The delegates are entertained with a serenade at the middle of Loboc river cruise



The biggest butterfly (Mariposa) in the sanctuary finds refuge in Ms. Eusebio's hat



At the historic Blood Compact Monument

AQD, DENR hold UNITAR workshops for LGUs

The Training workshop on development of local capacities in sea and human security in coastal communities in the Philippines was organized by AQD and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) with support from the United Nations Institute For Training and Research (UNITAR). The workshop was held in collaboration with the local government units (LGUs) of Culasi, Antique and Masbate City, Masbate.

Masbate City. The two-day workshop was held last April 15-16 and attended by 47 invited and volunteer participants and resource persons.

Culasi, Antique. The workshop was held last April 28-29 and attended by 58 participants and resource persons.

Staff of AQD's Socioeconomics Section (SES) served as secretariat, and the Training and Information Division documented the activity.

Day 1. In both venues, the first day of the workshop focused on a series of lectures on the sea and human security. The lectures started with the introduction of the key concept and principles of the UNITAR-Hiroshima Initiative. Then, the lectures linked these concepts to local issues and developments in the Philippines and in the local settings in Masbate City and Malalison Island.

Day 2. The second day of the two workshops in Masbate City and in Barangay Malalison in Culasi focused on the Participatory Action Plan Development (PAPD). The activity engaged participants to contribute in the identification of environmental, socioeconomic and sociopolitical problems relevant to seas and human security in Masbate City and in Malalison Island, respectively.

Priority problems include floods, land subsidence, reclamation areas, low income from fishing, and lack of supplemental livelihoods, medicine and electricity. Solutions were evaluated in terms of technical, financial and institutional feasibility.

The PAPD allowed every participant to cast their votes in the prioritization of these problems. Consensus building and cooperation were key attributes that were demonstrated and developed in the PAPD process.

Results of the PAPD will be discussed in the full report to be submitted to UNITAR-Bannai Small Grant Fund and the other participating organizations and agencies.



AQD's Dr. Nerissa Salayo explains the workshop rationale, objectives and expected outputs; and introduces the seas and human security concepts in the context of the UNITAR-Hiroshima Initiative



AQD's Mr. Renato Agbayani and DENR Region V Technical Director Felix Mendoza facilitate the PAPD plenary in Brgy. Malalison



Dr. Eva Ocfemia (standing in red) and Ms. Ruby Mendiones (seated in white) of DENR Region V speak on climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies; and on coastal resource assessment & management tools and strategies, respectively



Participants and resource persons from workshops held in Masbate City (top) and Culasi, Antique (above)

Mud crab training

AQD conducted the *Training course on crab hatchery and grow-out*, which officially started last April 14 at AQD's Tigbauan Main Station.

Nine participants – 1 from Kenya, 1 from Malaysia, 5 from the Philippines, 2 from Singapore – and 2 observers from Myanmar and the Philippines took part in the training.

The training aims to provide the participants with technical skills and knowledge in crab seed production and grow-out (with emphasis on *Scylla serrata*) so that the participants can establish/

operate a crab hatchery and learn nursery and grow-out techniques.

At the end of the course, the participants are expected to produce crab larvae and juveniles, and learn techniques on fattening and grow-out by knowing how to apply proper broodstock management; produce natural food organisms for crab larvae; and apply larval, nursery rearing, grow-out and fattening techniques.

The training ends May 5. Below are some snapshots of the training.



Ms. Milagros dela Peña lectures on growing natural food for mud crab



Attentively taking notes in practical sessions in growing the brine shrimp *Artemia*



The trainees are all engrossed in their disease management practicals



Pinning down their hopes (and crab samples) during practicals on embryonic & larval development and ablation



Discussing the merits of mud crab feed with Dr. Mae Catacutan



Learning the ropes of working in the hatchery with Dr. Emilia Quinitio



Preparing the stocks for transfer and stocking



At Guimaras' Manggahan Festival, trainees were at ease with the performers



The trainees with training course officer Ms. Ruby Bombeo (standing, 4th from left)

Freshwater fish ID workshop

Mr. Ruel Eguia, Associate Researcher of AQD's BFS, attended the *Freshwater fish identification and conservation training workshop* held at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in Laguna.



The workshop – held from April 20-26 – was organized to create awareness among communities working in aquaculture and to promote research and related activities to highlight the importance of biodiversity not only in the Philippines but on a global scale as well.



The activity enabled participants to gain knowledge and ideas in identifying fish species through the use of FishBase, taxonomic keys and other methods. They were also able to evaluate threatened, endangered and critically endangered species through the Redlist assessment criteria. Moreover, the *Fish Ark* concept was also introduced to them as an effective tool in the conservation of indigenous species. Also shared was practical knowledge in collecting, preserving, and properly documenting/labeling samples.

AQD housing residents hold general assembly

A general assembly of housing residents was conducted last April 2 at the TID AV Room.

The assembly gave the residents and housing management an opportunity to clarify some issues and

concerns. These included making amendments/changes to the guidelines and statement of policy. The assembly likewise went through the proposed revisions of the draft manual of operations which was last updated in 2002.



AQD Matters

is published monthly by the Development Communication Section, SEAFDEC Aquaculture Department, Tigbauan, Iloilo, Philippines

For contributions and feedback, kindly email: devcom@seafdec.org.ph

Editor this issue: RP Guarin

Editorial consultants:
MT Castaños, RF Agbayani,
RM Coloso, MRR Eguia,
LM Garcia, CL Pitogo

Research seminar at AQD



Dr. Santos presented his paper co-authored with Tatsuo Saito-Taki, Tomokazu Takano, Hidehiro Kondo, Ikuo Hirono and Takashi Aoki last April 29 at the RD AV Room

Dr. Mudjekeewis Santos of the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute of the Philippines presented the paper *Characterization of polyclonal antibodies against Japanese flounder IgM derived from recombinant IgM constant region proteins*. According to him, cell and determinant markers are important in fish immunology and have vast applications in aquaculture, but availability is limited. He, along with his co-authors, developed effective

polyclonal antibodies (pAbs) targeting specific parts of the Japanese flounder (*Paralichthys olivaceus*) IgM constant (C) region.

He also noted that cell markers are relatively easy to do, are cost-effective, and applicable not only to fish but also to other animals.

During his talk, he also touched a bit on cytokines and aptamers, which, along with cell markers, are important in the field of molecular immunology.

Congratulations, Batch 2009!

- Ms. **Pamela dela Peña**, Doctor of Medicine, University of the East-Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center (daughter of Ms. Milagros dela Peña)
- Ms. **Rose Anne Torreta**, *cum laude*, BS Chemistry, UP Diliman (daughter of Ms. Fely Torreta)